

news

news from the trunk

Thursday, April 5, 2012

SPRING
BREAK



KASMUN

From Thursday to Saturday, April 26 - 28, 2012 at KAS



Letter from the Superintendent, Greg Hughes

Dear Parents,

The Spring break is now upon us and it has really come at an opportune time. As you can see from the most recent newsletters, our school has been as busy as ever and the chance for our teachers and students to rest and recharge is definitely due.

As we gear up for a big finish to the school year, we look forward to a number of events that are scheduled after the break. Included in these are the Science Fair, the School Musical Production, our Annual Association Meeting, the KAS MUN Conference, and of course our Graduation Ceremony. Added to this is, of course, the long awaited opening of our swimming pool.

So as I wish you all a safe and relaxing break, I hope that everyone has a lot to look forward to as we come back.

Enjoy the holiday and see you back at school on the 17th of April.

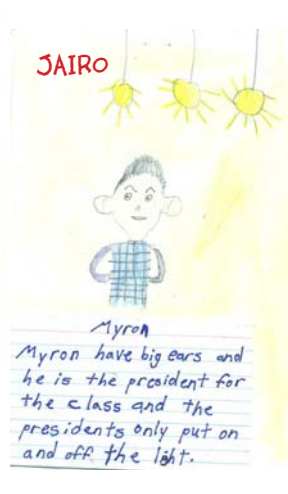
Letter from the Elementary School Principal, Ben Voborsky

Spring break is here! On behalf of all of us at KAS, we hope you have a wonderful vacation and come back recharged for the remainder of the school year. We would like to wish farewell to those families who will be leaving us at this time of the year. We have enjoyed having your children here at KAS and wish you all the best as you settle into your new schools.

As a school, we continually strive to improve our educational practices and stay informed of the latest educational research. The KAS faculty is involved in ongoing professional development through in-school sessions offered by colleagues and by attending workshops and conferences around the world. Our next Professional Development Day will be April 29th. This day will focus on technology and best practice incorporating technology into our curriculum.

The weather will indeed heat up over the break and we are anxiously awaiting the opening of the swimming pool. Swimming permission forms went home this week. If you have not returned one, please do so soon! Have safe and happy travels and I look forward to welcoming you back to KAS on Tuesday, April 17.

Thank you to our KAS community for your continuing support.





Volleyball News



The volleyball games at Unity ended up very similar to last weeks' games. The U19 boys beat Unity 2 sets to 1 to remain undefeated. The U14's had a bit more luck this time, and are showing that they are improving.

On Wednesday, April 4th, the girls went to Unity as well. They had the exact same results as last week! The U19 girls were able to play well and beat both Unity and KICS quite convincingly. The U14 girls also beat KICS again, but couldn't quite best the Unity team.

There will be no volleyball games next week because we are on holiday! After that, though, be prepared for the final week of the season. The boys play at KICS on the first day back, Tuesday April 17th, and the girls play on Wednesday, April 18th.

Good luck!



GRADE 4 LANGUAGE ARTS



IS KAS JUST A LITTLE TOO.....NORMAL?

MAYBE YOU SHOULD GO TO WAYSIDE SCHOOL! GRADE 4 CAN TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT, AND THE WACKY STUDENTS OF THE THIRTIETH STORY, IN THEIR CHARACTER REFERENCE BOOKS. RECENTLY, THE GRADE 4 CLASS READ SIDEWAYS STORIES FROM WAYSIDE SCHOOL BY LUIS SACHER. THEY DID A NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES TO SHOW THEIR UNDERSTANDING INCLUDING: PREDICTION POSTERS, CONNECTING CHARTS (TO SELF, TO TEXT, AND TO WORLD.) ACTIVATING BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE CHALLENGES, READING RESPONSE JOURNALS, VOCABULARY WORD CHARTS, AND A WORD WALL. ONE OF THE MAJOR PROJECTS THAT THEY DID TO REINFORCE THEIR LEARNING WAS THEY MADE A CHARACTER REFERENCE BOOK. EACH BOOK PROVIDES A SHORT PARAGRAPH, IN THEIR OWN WORDS, DESCRIBING THE IDIOSYNCRASIES OF EACH CHARACTER AND A PICTURE OF THAT CHARACTER.

GRADE 4 DID A FANTASTIC JOB ON THESE BOOKS. POP BY THE GRADE 4 CLASSROOM IF YOU WOULD LIKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THESE AMAZING EXAMPLES OF WHAT GOOD READERS DO TO SHARE IN THEIR UNDERSTANDING.





Winners:
 Hugo-KG,
 Mufeng-G1,
 Maellia-G2,
 Hamadelnil-G3,
 Hafiz-G4,
 Iris, Lamease,
 Susan, Alice,
 Avinash-HS

Since Avinash was first, he will attend a pizza party.

Learning Center Corner

Visual-Spatial Thinkers – Why Struggling Readers Can Be Bright Learners

Some people think predominantly in words - or more precisely, using the sounds of words. This type of thinker is variously described as a word thinker, a verbal thinker or an auditory-sequential thinker. Their thoughts are like "audio files" and, like speech, may typically occur in sentences which have a beginning and an end.

If you are an auditory-sequential thinker, you may be able to memorized poetry, Pythagoras' theorem ("The square of the hypotenuse...") and other information by "rehearsing" it in your mind. When you recall it, you will "hear" the information in your mind something like an echo or playback of the words you memorized.

Some learner may be struggling, not because they are disabled or of limited intelligence, but because they are a very different kind of thinker - a visual-spatial thinker. "Visual-spatial thinkers have lively imaginations and think in images, feelings and intuitive leaps much more easily than in words."

Because their imagination is their main learning tool, they find it easy to remember things when they "get the picture" and fully grasp why they are true. They often excel at creative or performing arts, at design, assembly and construction, or at lateral thinking. They may be able to visualize well.

But because most of their thinking is non-verbal, they will not be able to memorize things just because they're told to, without "getting the picture."

Now, here's a thing about reading. Typically, auditory-sequential thinkers have a "voice in the head" that "speaks" the words to them that they are reading. If you are an auditory-sequential thinker, you may be able to relate to that. You may therefore have responded well to phonic-based reading instruction, which plays particularly to auditory-sequential strengths. But when visual-spatial thinkers read, they get mental pictures or feelings for the meanings of words, rather than "hearing" the words in their mind.

That's why they often don't respond to phonic-based reading instruction. And it's why they struggle on the common little abstract words like "if", "at", "but" "is", "there", and so on.

Because of their difficulties with reading, they may be diagnosed dyslexic. Interestingly, research has shown that a high proportion of successful entrepreneurs (Orlando Bloom, Whoopy Goldberg, Tom Cruise...) are dyslexic thinkers, as have been many of our most talented figures in the sciences (Pierre Curie, Thomas Edison, Albert Einstein...) and in the creative and the performing arts (Leonardo Da Vinci, Pablo Picasso, Andy Warhol.....).

Dyslexia: Learning, Challenge and Gift by Molly Carraway in Volume 55, Issue 2 of the Dyslexic Reader goes into greater detail. You can also find more information about dyslexia on the site: www.dyslexia.com

Elementary School Math problem:

Kindergarten: Solve: $9 - 4$.

Grade 1: How many inches long is a ruler? And about how many centimeters?

Grade 2: Solve: 18 divided by 2.

Grade 3: : Answer the questions, using decimal numbers. Then, put the answers in order from smallest to largest.

A. What is 27 cm in meters?

B. What is 8 cm in meters?

C. What is 80 cm in meters?

Grade 4: Fill in the name-collection box using the different names for the powers of 10 for the following number:

100

Grade 5: Suzi went to dinner with some friends. She paid half of the bill. Her friend, Marco, paid $\frac{2}{7}$ of it. What fraction of the bill did Suzi and Marco pay altogether?

****BONUS QUESTION**:** If the bill for dinner cost \$56 total, how much did Suzi pay? How much did Marco pay?

Middle School Math problem:

A dart board has rings numbered 39, 34, 24, 23, and 16. How can you score exactly 100 points?

High School Math problem:

If you are 100 ft from a building and the angle of elevation to the top of the building is 70 degrees, how tall is the building?

Solutions from the last week: Kindergarten: 3 bunnies; **Grade 1:** 17; **Grade 2:** 16 wheels; **Grade 3:** a) 20 b) 200 c) 2,000; **Grade 4:** 2,548; **Grade 5:** a) $\frac{5}{17}$ b) $\frac{2}{17}$; **Middle School:** 6 days; **High School:** $\log_2\left(\frac{29x}{y}\right)$

Circle one:

✂ High School Middle School Elementary School

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Answer: _____ ✂



Positions Available at KAS for School Year 2012/2013:

- Kindergarten Teacher
- Arabic Teacher
- Business Manager

Please send a covering letter and CV to ghughes@krtams.org